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DARK SIDE: INDIA CLIMB UP TO THIRD IN WORLD DOPING LIST

According to the World Anti-Doping Agency's latest numbers, 17 per cent of all violations in 2019 were reported in India

BODYBUILDING, WEIGHTLIFTING LEAD THE WAY

At 57, bodybuilding, which traditionally sees a lot of doping violations, topped the list. Among Olympic disciplines, weightlifting, a sport that may be scratched because of its dope-tainted history, had 25 anti-doping rule violations (ADRVs). Athletics (20) and wrestling (10) came next. An ADRV is reported when a final decision has been taken by WADA

FROM FOURTH IN 2018 TO THIRD IN 2019

- In WADA's 2018 report, India recorded 107 ADRVs, with most violations in weightlifting (22) and athletics (16)
- In 2019, Russia topped the list with 167 ADRVs, followed by Italy (157). Brazil (78) was fourth on the list and Iran (70) fifth. In all, 2,78,047 samples were tested in WADA-accredited laboratories

FOUR

NO. OF CRICKETERS IN INDIA WHO WERE SANCTIONED BY WADA IN 2019

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Marshals in. Oppn walks out. Bill on Aadhaar seeding gets through RS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@New Delhi

TEMPERS ran high in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday as it passed the electoral reforms bill on linking Aadhaar with the voter identity card amid Opposition walkout. Marshals were deployed to contain the possible fallout, and Trinamool member Derek O'Brien threw the rule book towards the secretary general's desk before joining the walkout.

With sloganeering Opposition members holding posters trooping into the Well of the House, marshals were called in, who formed a ring around the chair. An appalled Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge shouted: "Is it a marshal law here?"

Members of the Congress, DMK, CPI(M) and Trinamool Congress moved separate resolutions to send the bill to a parliamentary standing committee for scrutiny. Amid the din, when deputy chairman Harivansh took up the resolutions, CPI(M)'s John Britas demanded division (voting) to take the call. But Harivansh said the process of voting cannot start till the members go back to their seats. The Opposition refused to relent and staged a walkout.

The Rajya Sabha then passed the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021, by voice vote. In the discussions earlier that lasted just 1 hour 10 minutes, Opposition members raised concerns about possible disenfranchisement of voters, adding the use of Aadhaar for ration and MGNREGA payments has led to many exclusions.

However, BJP member Sushil Modi pointed out that some Opposition members like Deepinder Hooda, Vivek Tankha and Sukhendu Sekhar Ray were part of the parliamentary standing committee that unanimously recommended that Aadhaar be linked to the electoral rolls. For his part, Ray (Trinamool) claimed he was not allowed to submit his dissent note on the matter in the committee headed by BJP MP Bhupender Yadav.

The Rajya Sabha is expected to be adjourned for good on Wednesday. P9

Derek suspended

Derek O'Brien was suspended for rest of the session for throwing the rule book towards the secretary general's desk. He joins 12 others who were suspended for the entire session for unruly behaviour during the previous session.

ANTI-CONVERSION BILL TABLED AMID OPPN UPROAR

MAUSHAD BIJAPUR @ Belagavi

Amid ruckus in the Legislative Assembly with opposition members raising objections, the contentious anti-conversion Bill was tabled hastily at the ongoing winter session of the state legislature at Suvarna Vidhan Soudha on Tuesday.

A furious KPCC president and MLA DK Shivakumar tore a copy of the bill and threw at the treasury benches, saying this piece of legislation is anti-people.

Even as opposition members staged a walkout after a long-drawn verbal duel with ruling party members against the tabling of the Bill, Speaker Vishveshwar Hegde Kageri said that a debate on the Bill will be held on Wednesday.

The Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Bill 2021 has come under severe criticism from different quarters, mainly Congress and various Christian organisations and dioceses in the state.

Assembly Opposition Leader Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar said the Bill is discriminatory and against the Constitution. Amid uproar over the Bill being introduced even before all members of the Assembly entered the hall for the second half of the session, Siddaramaiah said, "The Bill has been tabled in a hurry with malafide intention. Why did the Speaker not wait for all members of the Opposition to be present before the Bill was tabled?"

> **The Bill has been tabled in a hurry with malafide intention. Why did the Speaker not wait for all members of the Opposition to be present before the Bill was tabled?**
>
> Siddaramaiah, Assembly Opposition Leader

Other opposition leaders too objected, saying the Bill was being introduced surreptitiously, while all the members could have been informed about it.

JDS MLA Bandeppa Kashempur said, "The Business Advisory Committee (BAC) has so far not discussed tabling of this Bill. BAC did throw light on all other bills, except the anti-conversion Bill."

Law Minister JC Madhuswamy and Home Minister Araga Jnanendra, while arguing with Siddaramaiah, said the BJP government had clarified and made it public that this Bill would be tabled. Allegations of Opposition members that it was introduced without anyone's notice is false, they added. CONTINUED ON: P4

NO REVELRY

(RESTRICTIONS FROM DECEMBER 30 TO JANUARY 2)

WHAT IS NOT ALLOWED

Gatherings/celebrations on a large scale in the vicinity of Church Street, MG Road, Brigade Road and Parallel Roads in Bengaluru and other such similar roads, places in other cities of Karnataka.

Gatherings/celebrations on major roads, malls and other public places.

Special events/organised gatherings in pubs, restaurants, apartment clubs and other similar establishments.

P3

Omicron more infectious, open war rooms, states told

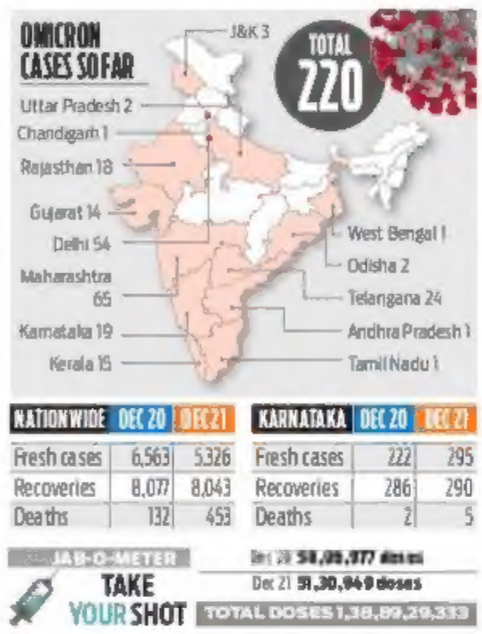
SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA @New Delhi

THE Centre on Tuesday sounded fresh alarm bells over Omicron saying that available evidence suggests the new Covid variant is thrice more infectious than Delta. In a letter to chief secretaries, Union health secretary Rajesh Bhushan said states must activate war rooms for dynamic decision making in light of the rapidly evolving situation on the ground.

The development came on a day when Omicron cases in the country shot up to 217. On Tuesday, Odisha joined the list of states with confirmed cases (see box).

In his letter, Bhushan said there should be constant review of emerging data at the district level, about the population affected by Covid-19, geographical spread, hospital infrastructure and its utilisation, manpower, and notification of containment zones. If any district reports a test positivity rate of 10% or more, or if bed occupancy has touched 40% on oxygen supported / ICU beds, then restrictions must be imposed immediately to prevent further spread of infection, the letter suggested. The advisory also noted that states can take containment measures even before the specified thresholds are reached, based on the local situation.

The letter also called for door-to-door case search, testing of all cases of severe acute respiratory illness or influenza-like illnesses, and ensuring adequate RT-PCR tests are done.



KERALA HC FINE

FOR COVID CERTIFICATE PLEA

THE Kerala High Court on Tuesday imposed ₹1 lakh fine on a senior citizen who sought removal of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's photo from the Covid vaccination certificate. Justice P V Kunhikrishnan dismissed the plea, terming it a 'frivolous' one filed with "ulterior motives". The petitioner, Peter Myaliparambil, had claimed PM's photo on the certificate was an infringement of fundamental rights | P7

EXPRESS READ

No manual scavengers in India: Centre in LS

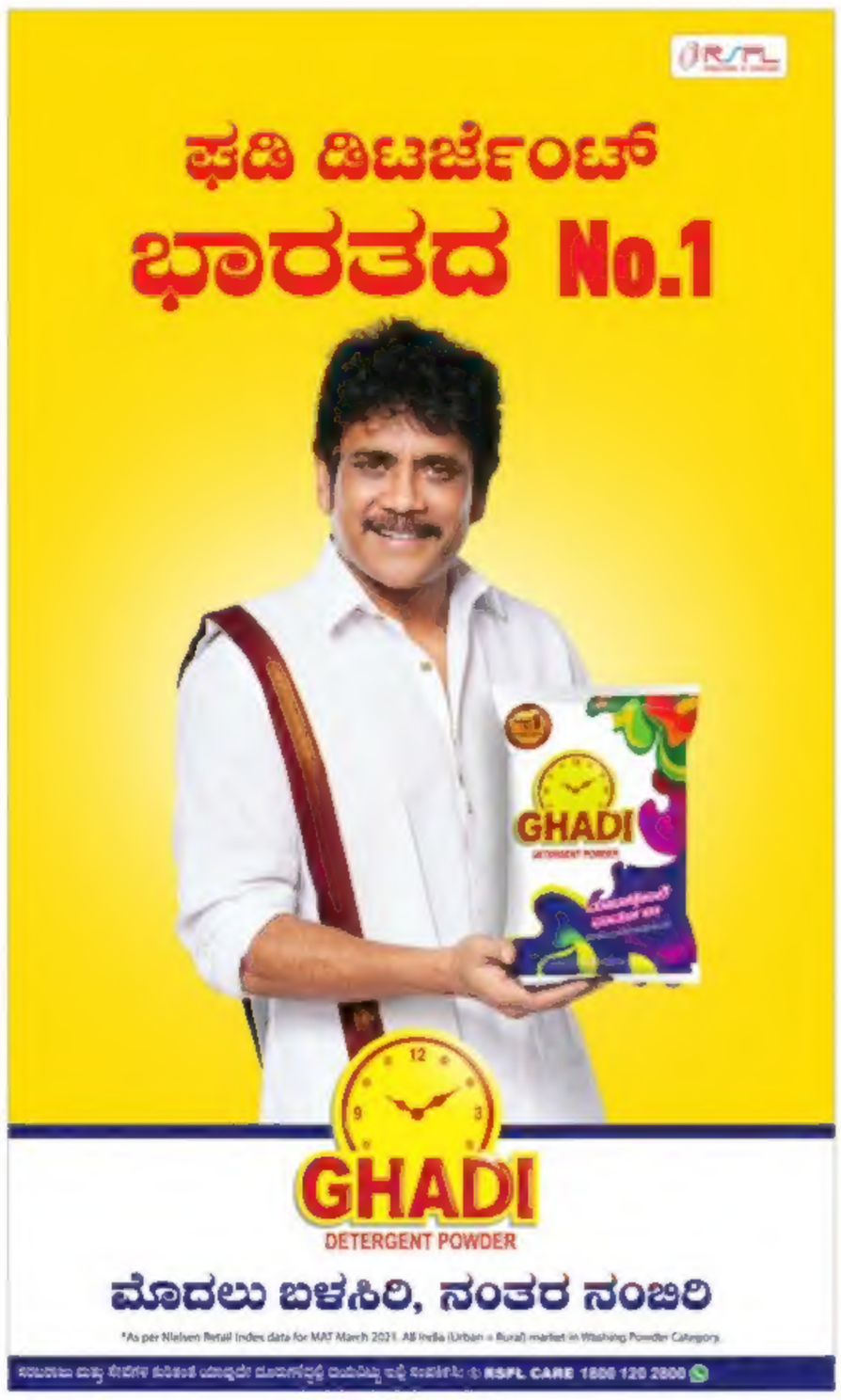
New Delhi: No person in India is currently engaged in manual scavenging, according to the Centre. Responding to a question in the Lok Sabha, junior social justice minister Ramdas Athawale said there have been no reports of deaths due to manual scavenging. "However, as per reports from States, 158 persons have died while cleaning sewers or septic tanks during the last three years," the minister added.

Shastri's comment crushed me: Ashwin

New Delhi: India off-spinner R Ashwin revealed that he felt like he was being "thrown under the bus" after a remark by former head coach Ravi Shastri left him "crushed" during a torrid phase in his career when he contem-plated retirement multiple times. In an interview, Ashwin was asked how he felt when then coach Shastri anointed Kuldeep Yadav as India's No.1 spinner overseas.

Auto component industry optimistic

New Delhi: The auto component industry remains 'cautiously optimistic' for the growth of the industry in the current fiscal year despite concerns of another wave of the pandemic, industry body ACMA said on Tuesday. The turnover of the automotive component industry stood at Rs 1.96 lakh crore in April-September 2021, registering a growth of 65% over the first half of last year. PTI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ಭಾರತದ No.1
GHADI
GHADI
DETERGENT POWDER
ಮೊದಲು ಬಳಸಿರಿ, ನಂತರ ನಂಬಿರಿ
*As per Nielsen Retail Index data for MAT March 2021. All India (Urban + Rural) market in Washing Powder Category
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